2024

Number 3

NCNA *Journal*

NCNA Journal

Volume 50 2024 Number 3

Spotlight on Collecting U.S. Barber Coinage!

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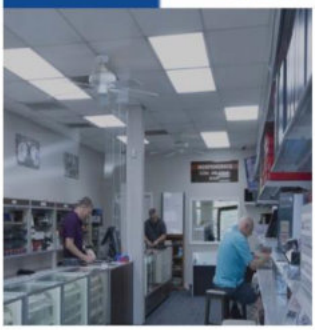

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NCNA Journal

The Official Publication of the North Carolina Numismatic Association

Volume 50 2024 Number 3

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The *NCNA Journal* is published four times per year by the North Carolina Numismatic Association. The opinions expressed in the articles published are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the North Carolina Numismatic Association or the Editor.

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Writing for the NCNA Journal

The *NCNA Journal* welcomes original articles on all facets of numismatics; articles related to North Carolina numismatics are particularly encouraged. Submission of previously published articles will be considered on a case-by-case basis; prior publication source should be noted at time of submission. The NCNA reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, format and/or content.

Digital copies of submissions are preferred; they should be sent via email to: ghcheek@earthlink.net. Typewritten articles are also accepted; they should be sent to: Greg Cheek, P Box 185, Yadkinville, N.C. 27055.

The inclusion of images in support of a submitted article is very much appreciated. Digital images of 300 dpi (or higher) are preferred. Files in JPG format are preferred. Please contact the editor before sending images in other formats. Questions regarding images should be directed to the editor. ***PLEASE NOTE: The copyright for all images submitted must be owned by the submitter; submission of images downloaded from the internet without prior permission is not acceptable.***

Authors of articles submitted are eligible for the NCNA's **Bason Literary Award**. It is given each year in recognition of outstanding contributions to the *NCNA Journal* and/or other numismatic publications.

Advertising in the Journal

Advertisement artwork should be submitted in "camera ready" digital form (300 dpi or greater) whenever possible; a clean business card can be submitted for one-third page ad requests. A $35 charge will be incurred if the NCNA is required to design an advertisement prior to its publication. Payment is due prior to the first insertion.

Advertising Rates

	One Insertion	Annual (4x)
One-Third Page	$20	$60
Half Page	$30	$100
Full Page	$60	$200
Back Cover (Full Color)	N/A	$300

Submission Deadlines for Articles and Advertisements

Issue 1 – February 1
Issue 2 – May 1
Issue 3 – August 1
Issue 4 – November 1

President's Message

The 2024 NCNA Convention and Show is almost upon us as we are looking forward to our **66th Anniversary Show!!!** We certainly look forward to seeing you there as well! The bourse will be filled with 165 dealer tables, along with ANACS grading services. Several tables have also been set aside for local coin clubs, so be sure to stop by and visit with them. There will be plenty of educational opportunities with an outstanding line-up of speakers and education seminars. YN programs and activities are planned on Friday and Saturday to engage both young collectors and parents. See the convention and show details below. Please consider joining us for a great three-day weekend of fun in the pursuit of collectables, rarities, and treasure!

Please don't forget to RENEW your NCNA Membership in 2024!
We are well into 2024, and we're excited that many of you have renewed your NCNA membership. However, if you have not done so yet, it is not too late, so please **renew as soon as you can.** We want you to remain with us as a loyal member of the NCNA so we can continue to send you the NCNA Journal. Checkout "News from the Secretary and Treasurer" for more information on joining or renewing your NCNA membership.

Election of 2025 Officers and Board of Directors
I just wanted to make sure that you were aware that **nominations are now closed for NCNA officers and board of directors**. All five officer positions and the three open board of director positions have only one nominee each. Please note the slate of nominees on the next page. Per NCNA by-laws, as all eight positions are uncontested, a formal election will not be needed. All eight **nominees will be accepted by acclimation with a single vote by the NCNA Secretary** at the upcoming NCNA General Meeting on Saturday morning of the convention.

Slate of Nominees for 2024/25 NCNA Officers and Board of Directors

President:	Greg Cheek
1st Vice President:	Perry Siegel
2nd Vice President:	Danny Freeman
Secretary:	Bill Graves
Treasurer:	Fred Haumann
Director (through 2027):	Paul Landsberg
Director (through 2027):	Mac Grice
Director (through 2027):	Gary Canupp

NCNA Young Numismatist Scholarship Program

Also consider helping a young numismatist connect with the NCNA Young Numismatist Scholarship Program this year**.** This NCNA program **helps provide full tuition funding for one young collector each year to attend the ANA Summer Seminar** held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Young collectors and their parents should consider this great opportunity. Local clubs are also encouraged to nominate deserving young club members as well. The ANA has yet to set the deadline for **submitting applications for the 2025 ANA Summer Seminar**. The deadline will be posted on the NCNA website and in the Journal as soon as it is announced. More information regarding the NCNA Scholarship Program can be found at ***http://ncna.club/yn-program/programs/*** on the NCNA website. Please email Bob Pedolsky, NCNA YN Coordinator, at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com if you have any questions regarding the scholarship program or application process.

The NCNA Officers and Board of Directors are focused on assisting local club efforts to promote the hobby that we all enjoy. Please feel free to reach out to any of us with questions or for help!

I wish you much success in hunting for your favorite collectables, and encourage you to find ways to get more involved in your local club! I also wish you safe travels to and from the NCNA Convention & Show. We hope to see you there!

Greg Cheek, NCNA President

On the Cover for this issue of the NCNA Journal …

Shown front and center is Charles Edward Barber, the 6th Chief Engraver of the U S Mint from 1879-1917. He designed the halves, quarters and dimes that bear his name along with the ubiquitous "V" nickels, and several mint medals. He also designed many pattern coins including the ones shown on this issue's cover. Clockwise from the top: 1879 gold $4 Flowing Hair Stella, 1896 5 cents (Judd-1770), 1895 dime, 1881 5 cents (J-1671), the unique 1906 double eagle (J-1773), 1881 3 cents (J-1668), 1895 half dollar, 1896 pattern cent (J-1768), 1881 cent (J-1665), and the 1898 Barber Quarter. Please see **"Join The Club"** on page 50 for an introduction to the **Barber Coin Collectors Society (BCCS.)** Also, be sure to visit the BCCS at the NCNA Convention, where they will be set up alongside the Liberty Seated Collectors Club.

(By Paul Horner, $20 image courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution Numismatic Collection, Barber portrait courtesy of the BCCS, and all other images courtesy of Heritage Auctions. Judd #s from United States Pattern, Trial and Experimental Pieces by J. Hewitt Judd, M.D.)

2024 Convention & Show Highlights

The 2024 NCNA Convention and Show – the Association's 66th annual show and convention – will be held on Friday October 4th through Sunday October 6th.

The Convention will be held again at the Cabarrus Arena and Events Center in Concord, NC. The arena complex is located at 4751 NC Highway 49. Show hours are 10:00am to 6:00pm on Friday and Saturday, and 10:00am to 3:00pm on Sunday. Please note the complete schedule for the convention below.

Once again, Bourse Chair Perry Siegel and the convention team has worked hard to put together another outstanding convention and show. The bourse will include 165 dealer tables with over 100 dealers loaded with numismatic and philatelic treasures from the US and around the world. Books and supplies will also be available. There are dealers from 13 states and a great variety of material will be available to add to almost every collection!

We also have as our special guests the folks from the **Reed Gold Mine**. They will be conducting a **GOLD PANNING** operation in the Young Collector's Zone on the bourse floor throughout the convention and show!

Express Entry

Post cards regarding the 2024 NCNA Convention & Show have been mailed to all NCNA members. Be sure to bring your postcard to the show for express entry. You can also visit our web site at ***NCNA.CLUB*** to print and complete a copy of the pre-registration form for express entry as well. Every minute counts when you are on the hunt!

General Membership Meeting

The annual NCNA General Membership meeting will be held on Saturday, October 5th at 8:30am. The meeting is open to all show attendees – come on out ahead of the bourse's opening and meet your NCNA Board and hear the latest updates about your Association. A highlight of the meeting will be the NCNA's annual awards presentations. These awards honor outstanding contributions from numismatists across the state. We will also announce the 2024 recipient of the G. Dean Whisnant Memorial Scholarship. Installing the 2024-2025 NCNA Officers and Board of Directors is also a part of the meeting's agenda. Refreshments will be provided, including Danish pastry, muffins, fruit, coffee, and juice.

Young Collector's Zone

On Saturday and Sunday, Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator, will be hosting the "Young Collector's Zone" on the bourse floor. A "**Treasure**

Hunt" will be held on Friday and Saturday, along with other fun games and educational activities for young collectors. Bob will offer a special YN program on "The 1933 Saint Gaudens Double Eagle, A Short History, A Personal Story" at 11:00 AM on Saturday. We encourage all YN's, as well as their parents and others, to try to attend this program. All young collectors participating in the YN program will receive free coin prizes!

Raffle

A gold coin raffle will be part of the Convention again this year. **Drawings for 1/10th ounce gold and one ounce silver eagles** will be done at the end of the show on Sunday afternoon. Winners do not need to be present. Tickets are just $1.00 each with six tickets for $5.00. Proceeds go toward the NCNA's education programs.

Convention Educational Exhibits & Seminars

The Convention will include an educational exhibit area featuring a range of displays covering many areas of the hobby – coins, bank notes, tokens, medals, etc. will all be on display. The exhibit area begins just past the registration area on the left side of the bourse floor. Please support our exhibitors! Make sure to vote for your favorite exhibit after viewing the displays!

The Convention will also feature **seven educational seminars throughout, with three on Friday and four more on Saturday**. The seminars will be held in the draped-off area at the front-left of the hall. Please see the Convention & Show Schedule for a complete list of activities.

2024 NCNA Convention & Show Schedule

Thursday, October 3rd

2:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Dealer Set up
3:00 pm - 8:00 pm	**Early Entry ($50.00)**

Friday, October 4th

8:00 am	Dealer & Early Bird Bourse Admittance only
9:30 am - 10:00 am	Early Admittance to Bourse for NCNA members
10:00 am - 6:00 pm	Convention Open to the Public
10:00 am - 6:00 pm	**Educational Exhibits** – open to the public. *Be sure to vote for your favorite!*
10:00 am - 6:00 pm	**Vote for your favorite dealer –** *Ballots available at registration or by the ballot box near the exit*
12:00 noon - 6:00 pm	**Young Collector's Zone** open – Free coins for YNs!

2024 NCNA Convention & Show Schedule

(continued)

Friday, October 4th

12:00 noon - 1:00 pm	**Educational Seminar –** "*NC Civil War Treasury Notes*" by Paul Horner
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Educational Seminar -** "*If Money from the Civil War Could Talk!*" by Greg Cheek
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	**Educational Seminar -** "*The Coinage of the Bonaparte Family 1797-1870, and Beyond*" by Sanford Steelman
6:00 pm	Convention Closes for the Day

Saturday, October 5th

8:00 am	Dealer & Early Bird Bourse Admittance only
8:30 am - 9:30 am	NCNA General Membership Meeting
9:30 am - 10:00 am	Early Admittance to Bourse for NCNA members
10:00 am - 6:00 pm	Convention Open to the Public
10:00 am - 6:00 pm	**Educational Exhibits** – open to the public. *Be sure to vote for your favorite!*
10:00 pm - 6:00 pm	**Young Collector's Zone** open – Free coins for YNs!
11:00 am - 12:00 noon	**Young Collector Seminar –** "The 1933 Saint Gaudens Double Eagle, A Short History, A Personal Story" by Bob Pedolsky
12:00 noon - 1:00 pm	**Educational Seminar –** "*Vignettes on US Obsolete Paper Money*" by Bob Schriener
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Educational Seminar -** "*Gold Prospecting in North Carolina*" by Bill Brewer
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	**Educational Seminar -** "*Collecting American Colonial Coins*" by Tom Wood
6:00 pm	Convention Closes for the Day

Sunday, October 6th

8:00 am	Dealer & Early Bird Bourse Admittance only
9:30 am - 10:00 am	Early Admittance to Bourse for NCNA members
10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Convention Open to the Public
10:00 am - 3:00 pm	**Educational Exhibits** – open to the public. *Be sure to vote for your favorite!*
3:00 pm	Convention Closes
3:00 pm	**Drawings** - 1/10 oz. Gold & 1 oz. Silver Eagles

News from the Secretary & Treasurer

Fred Haumann is the NCNA Treasurer and Bill Graves is the NCNA Secretary. Together they both are doing a great job managing the membership records and keeping up with NCNA membership renewals. Many thanks also to Bill's wife, Mary and Fred's wife, Cheryl, for their assistance in these roles as well.

If you have questions regarding payment of your NCNA membership, email Fred at ***fjhstuff@yahoo.com***. Fred takes care of all incoming membership applications/payments and other financial matters for the NCNA.

Please direct all NCNA membership renewals and payments to Fred at following address:

Fred Haumann/NCNA
PO Box 681
Bracey, VA 23919

Fred will pass along your membership information to Bill Graves, as Bill maintains the NCNA membership records. Bill is also available to assist you with inquiries regarding membership status. You can send him an email at ***bgraves180@aol.com***.

Fred and Bill want to thank all of you who have renewed your NCNA membership in 2024 already! **Please consider sending in your 2024 renewal as soon as you can so that you'll continue to receive the NCNA Journal**.

PLEASE NOTE: Look at the MAILING ADDRESS LABEL on your JOURNAL envelope! The label shows the year that your NCNA membership dues are paid through. **If it indicates 2023 or before, your membership renewal is due now**. If it shows 2024 or after, your membership dues are good

Join the NCNA Facebook page at *www.facebook.com/NCCollector*

Visit the NCNA Website at NCNA.CLUB

Notes from the Editor's Desk

Welcome to another edition of the NCNA Journal. I'm very excited as we have so many great articles this time around.

Mark Benvenuto is back after taking some time off from writing for the NCNA Journal with an interesting article on ***"Morgan and Peace Dollars: Old and New.***"

Bob Pedolsky presents another edition of ***Young Collectors News***, in which he features Stephen Bodnar's report on **"*My Time at the 2024 ANA Summer Seminar.*"**

"*The Coins of Gardiner's Island*" by Paul Horner is a journey back in time, with numismatic references to a small private island near Long Island, New York.

Charles Derby provides highlights for his most recently published book entitled***, "The Signers and Issuers of Confederate Bonds."*** It is a very interesting look at the personalities at the center of financing the embattled Confederacy from 1861 through 1865.

In ***"A Counterfeit Coin in a PCGS Slab",*** Tom Stinchcombe shares a recent "buyer beware lesson" regarding a new and alarming kind of numismatic counterfeiting threat.

Perry Siegel is at the top of his game this time in ***The Ancient Guy***, as he shares some interesting numismatic angles regarding ***"Ancient Games Coins"***. Perry brings it all to life with great images of ancient coinage.

In this edition of the NCNA Journal, the spotlight is on NCNA President Greg Cheek regarding his numismatic adventure in **"*Getting to Know Your Board"*** from Perry Siegel.

Please take time to read these articles. As always, your feedback on the NCNA Journal is important in helping us understand what our readers enjoy and the topics of most interest to them. Please reach out to me if you are also interested in writing an article for the NCNA Journal.

Oh, and one more thing… I just wanted to make sure that you knew that **back issues (at least one year back)** of the NCNA Journal are available in full color for online viewing on the NCNA website!

I wish you much success in your ongoing numismatic journey!
Greg

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Morgan and Peace Dollars: Old and New

By Mark Benvenuto

The United States Mint has for the past couple of years produced some absolutely beautiful Morgan and Peace dollars, perfect in design detail when compared to the classic ones. The year 2021 was chosen as the start point for the resurrected designs, since it was 1921 that was both the last hurrah for the Morgan dollar, and the debut of the Peace dollar. The three different Morgan dollars of 1921 were made in enormous numbers, with the version coming from Philadelphia taking first place for any silver dollar the United States Mint had ever produced. Even today, any of the 1921 Morgan dollars are quite affordable in most grades. And while the 1921 Peace dollar is considered a key to that series because of a "low" mintage, it still has an official Mint tally of over one million pieces. All things considered, 1921 was a good year for silver dollars.

Jumping to the present, we now have a bit of time between us and the 2021 silver dollars, and therefore have been able to consider whether or not this recent offering from the Mint was a good deal right from the get-go, or whether waiting and buying one on the secondary market is the way to proceed. Let's do a bit of compare-and-contrast in this regard.

The Cost

The United States Mint website indicates that the original price tag for any of the many 2021 Morgan or Peace dollar offerings was $85. That's not a particularly bad outlay for a collector who wants a magnificent coin, although the price of silver metal on the world markets has hovered at about $20-24 per ounce for the last few years. The Mint advertises these new dollars as being 0.999 fine silver. The traditional Morgan and Peace dollars are only 0.900 silver, which means we get a bit more of the precious metal in these newer issues. But the lower end of mint state – something like MS-60 or MS-61 – will only cost about $50 for one of the classic dollars. It seems that when it comes to cost, each of us will have to make our own choice on value since the price tags do not appear to be all that far apart.

eBay Sellers

When it comes to the modern secondary market, many of us still prefer to pick up coins for our collections from some reputable dealer at a local, regional, or national show. The logic is often that we are supporting a local business, and a friend. As well, there is a real satisfaction to examining any coin and purchasing it on the spot. But we cannot deny that eBay and other online vehicles have become an important part of the greater hobby, of the buying and selling of a huge variety of coins, and that here too we can end up supporting a small business owner. Sometimes we can find classic Morgan and Peace dollars at good prices through online sources. It is always a mystery as to why someone wants to sell below what is considered the normal market price. Why look that proverbial gift horse in the mouth?

When it comes to looking for the 2021 and 2023 Morgan and Peace dollars on-line, it appears that eBay sports prices which are all over the map. Many of these new beauties have been slabbed already – encased in brand-new, third-party grading services holders – and often are sold as a duo, meaning one Morgan and one Peace dollar. Usually these will cost a couple of hundred dollars. Those pieces which have not been slabbed tend to cost somewhat less. But slabbed or raw, there seems to be no shortage of them for anyone who is interested.

Is MS-70 Worth It?

When it comes to the new Morgan dollars, it certainly didn't take too long for folks to have them certified by any of the major, reputable, third-party grading services. These slabbed coins are now available with some having been graded at that numerical grade we all consider to be perfect – the MS-70 or PF-70. It's really wonderful to be able to add a coin with this grade to any collection, but the cynic within most of us, or perhaps the practical collector, asks the question: is it worth it to pay more for that MS-70?

Now, rather than just give a 'yes' or 'no,' let's consider some of the other options. If the cost of an MS-70 is twice the cost of an MS-69, is it worth it? Some of us might believe it is, while others will be honest enough with ourselves to admit we can't routinely tell the difference between the two grades unless they are both slabbed. The question becomes a bit broader if we ask the same of an MS-70 specimen and an MS-68 version. After all, it's not as if the MS-68 is some kind of mangy dog. It's still going to be beautiful, and still going to be a great coin in our collection. It looks like the answer to the question of whether or not a certain price is worth it is as individual as the collector.

Has a New Series Started?

Possibly the more interesting question about the modern Morgan and Peace dollars is whether or not an entirely new series has indeed begun. After the bustle of activity in 2021 – the same excitement that occurs with just about every new offering that has some connection to a collector favorite – the year 2022 saw a big batch of nothing. It made plenty of us wonder if these two coins, and all their possible variations of mint marks and such, were just another couple of commemoratives in a series that started in 1982. But with a second year under the belt, we now can have hope that a series is coming into being. And whether we stay wedded to collecting the two classic series, or want to see if we can build a new set of something like MS-70 silver dollars, it looks like we have some amazing possibilities, both old and new.

All images courtesy of Heritage Auctions.

Young Collector's News

By Bob Pedolsky

Hello YNs of all ages.

Our annual show, at Cabarrus Arena is quickly approaching. Preparations are under way. Barbara, Libby, Denice, Stephen, Samuel, Charles, Matthew and others have all contributed to or will be working in the Young Numismatists Zone at the show. They are looking forward to working with all of the YN's who attend.

I would like to remind all YN coordinators that I have packets of coins to be given away for free. Just contact me at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com.

The treasure hunt will be "Women on Coins". The presentation will be "The 1933 Saint Gaudens Double Eagle, A Short History, A Personal Story". This year, we will be sharing space with Reed Gold Mine. It will be an exciting area for the YNs to interact and have a great time of learning and fun. The Treasure Hunt will be open from approximately noon to closing on Friday and all day on Saturday.

The rest of this month's column will be provided by our NCNA scholarship winner, Stephen Bodnar, telling us about his experience at the ANA.

My Time at the 2024 ANA Summer Seminar

By Stephen Bodnar

The ANA Summer Seminar was by far the most exciting week I have ever had over the course of my numismatic journey. During the week, I had many new, interesting, and educational encounters - all of which contributed to bettering my knowledge and experience as a numismatist.

The excitement began early on Saturday morning at the airport. This was the first time I had flown on my own! After several hours, I arrived in Colorado Springs at the ANA headquarters. I immediately found the environment to be friendly and welcoming. I began to meet people right away. Many were other YN's who were also attending Summer Seminar and it was great to meet and connect with them on the first day. It was interesting to talk to and listen to the perspectives they had on both collecting and dealing in coins. I also took time to head over to the ANA Money Museum. Here I was able to view coins I had only ever heard or read about before – a 1943 copper cent, a 1933 gold eagle, an 1804 Dollar, and many other rare US, world, and ancient coins.

There were many exciting activities to participate in throughout the week. The first was the annual ANA library book sale. Aside from the actual course I took, I had been looking forward to this event more than anything else. Every year the ANA library will sell duplicates of books from its vast collection. There were many treasures to be found at the book sale. I found bound copies of past publications of *The Numismatist*, a counterfeit detection guide, and a rare four-volume set of Haxby's obsolete currency encyclopedia! Another exciting event was the YN benefit auction. Attendees of the Summer Seminar donated items that were then sold to raise money for the ANA's young numismatist program. There were many interesting lots. Some of the highlights of the night were: a one-of-one "purple book" made by printing a Whitman Redbook and Bluebook together, a various selection of grading service sample slabs, and an Egyptian tetradrachm dated 311-305 BC.

While these activities were exciting, the primary reason I was at Summer Seminar was to learn. The class I chose was titled *Counterfeits, Alteration Detection and Problem Coins* and was taught by Robert Campbell and Brian Silliman, two renowned authenticators. This course offered me a chance to look at coins in a way I had never done before – from the dark side! First, we learned about the distinct types of counterfeits. Some methods were crude and easy to detect, others were shockingly creative. One which completely blew me away was an embossed mintmark. An embossed mintmark is where a counterfeiter will drill into the rim of a real coin and use a clamp to raise the metal where the mintmark should be located; the hole is then filled and smoothed over.

After learning about how to detect counterfeits, we were given the opportunity to test our skills by looking at the ANA's counterfeit detection set. I would look at a coin and use my knowledge of authentic diagnostics to determine its authenticity. If I got the answer right, I would move on; if I got the answer wrong, I would reexamine the coin to find what I missed. I spotted some of the counterfeits I looked at right away, others completely stumped me. One of the most notable counterfeits I looked at was the Omega counterfeit 1907 high relief double eagle. I learned a lot from this class. I left with the knowledge to better spot coins of spurious authenticity, and that I still have so much more to learn!

Summer Seminar 2024 was one of the most educational experiences I have had in my numismatic journey. I am so thankful to the NCNA for providing the scholarship that allowed me to go, and to the Charlotte Coin Club for helping me grow as a young collector. This was an experience I will never forget.

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The Coins of Gardiner's Island

By Paul Horner

Nine miles long and three miles wide, Gardiner's Island is between the two peninsulas of the eastern end of Long Island, New York. In 1639, Charles I[1], King of England, granted the island to Lion Gardiner in the first English manorial grant in the new world. Indeed, it is the only one to have remained intact to the present day. To be fair, Lion Gardiner also paid the Montaukett Indians "A large black dog, a few Dutch blankets, some powder and shot." (per rdlgfoundation.org/history) Gardiner's Island has remained in the Gardiner family to this day and has not been commercially developed. The island boasts of deer that roam through the 700-year-old virgin white oak forests and 64 species of birds. Without any predators, osprey nest on the ground here. A plethora of material on the Gardiner family and their Island can be found on the internet and elsewhere. So, the emphasis here will be on the numismatic aspects of the Gardiners: The infamous privateer Captain Kidd buried some of his treasure on Gardiner's Island in 1699. Julia Gardiner (1820-1889) at 23 became the second wife and third (read on!) First Lady of President John Tyler. Baron David Lion Gardiner (1911-2004), sixteenth Lord of the Manor, commissioned a series of "pattern" coins of Gardiner's Island in 1965.

Gardiner's Island Pattern "Coins"

A pair of quotes from the numismatic press of the day introduces collectors to the forthcoming Gardiner's Island issues:

1) "A press release under name of *Gardiners Island Trading Assn* states that Baron David Lion Gardiner sixteenth Lord of Manor of Gardiners Island has commissioned Gilroy Roberts to design pattern trial proofs. The obverse will feature the Giant Osprey in Flight by Audubon; Audubon painted many of his bird pictures on the island. The reverse will bear the Gardiner's armorial coat." *Numismatic Scrapbook 7/1/1965*
2) "The Gardiner's Island Trading Assn Proudly Announces The 1965 *Gardiner's Island Proof Trial Patterns* designed by Gilroy Roberts[2]. Due to the current silver shortage the Government of the United States has announced the use of substitute metals. Baron David Lion Gardiner has commissioned that three suitable metals be struck for presentation to the Treasury Department for coinage consideration." *Coin World 09/01/1965*

Although referred to here as coins, these are medals or tokens, as they are not denominated. 3,000 of the three-coin sets in proof finish were minted by *The General Numismatics Corporation*[3].

The three coins each measure 38.75 mm, (an Ike dollar measures 38.1 mm). They have reeded edges and are struck in normal coin orientation. Each coin states the name of its alloy on the reverse and all have a common obverse.

Left to right: Franklinium 1 is pure nickel (.995 fine) impregnated with columbium. Sterling plus nickel-silver core sandwiched between two layers of sterling-silver (.925 fine). Nicon cupro-nickel impregnated with columbium.
(Image courtesy of the Wolfpack Hoard)

The two alloys containing columbium[4] were (possibly) patented by GNC. Examples of these were presented to the U. S. Mint as silver substitutes but were rejected, ostensibly as the mint was unwilling to be at the mercy of a private company for its supply of a proprietary coinage metal. Gilroy Roberts modeled the common obverse from John J. Audubon's Birds of America *"Common Osprey Fish Hawk"* plate 81. Pandion haliaetus, male, carrying a Weakfish (yellowmouth trout.) "GARDINER'S ISLAND 1965" surrounds the image. Robert's designer initials are at bottom center.

Obverse plaster from the Stack's Bowers November 2022 World Collectors Choice Online Auction– world Coins Part 2 The Pat Johnson Collection, lot 73068 realized $168 on an estimate of $20-40.
(Image courtesy of Stack's Bowers Galleries)

The reverse, also by Roberts shows the Gardiner Family crest. "Deo Non Fortune" is on a ribbon at bottom: "Trusting in God, not in chance." At bottom is the Franklin Mint mintmark. Around: "Pattern Trial Proof on (alloy used)." The box of issue is covered in red "pleather" with a blue insert for the three coins. The outside lid proclaims in gold: "GARDINERS ISLAND 1965." The inside lid is white satin printed in gold with the Gardiner crest and inscribed: "Special presentation set submitted to illustrate potential substitutes for silver." A card was included that listed the three alloys. *Unusual World Coins* states that $19.95 was the issue price for the three-coin set. Sets were advertised in *Moneytalks page 6 Superior Stamp & Coin Co. Inc. May 1983.* Under coins of the world GARDINERS ISLAND 499. 1965 3 pc specimen set proof w/case $25.00 Evidently, sets moved slowly: *Moneytalks July 1984* $20 3 pc set. Single coins and 3-piece sets are commonly available today on EBAY, a set costing about $100.

Additionally, two examples were made of Platinum. There is not a Franklin Mint mintmark on the reverse of the platinum pieces.
(Image courtesy of Professional Coin Grading Service - PCGS.com)

The "coins" are listed in *Unusual World Coins* as: Silver Clad X-PT1, Franklinium XPT-2, Nicon Franklinium II XPT-3, Platinum [actual platinum weight] 54.1200 g. XPT-4 and the 3-coin proof set as XPS1. These pieces are not listed in either the Judd or Pollock pattern references, but perhaps they should be!

Captain Kidd and his Buried Treasure

Captain William Kidd (1654-1701) was a Scottish privateer and not technically a pirate, though he was eventually accused of being one. In 1695 he was given a royal commission and a letter of marque personally signed by King William III of England: permission to hunt down pirates and enemy French ships. In 1699, Kidd's seafaring exploits ended. The political winds had changed for Kidd, and now instead of being a favorite of the king, he was branded a criminal, and a price was put on his head. Captain Kidd came up with a plan: He would bury his treasure[5] on Gardiner's Island and then pay his old friend and former backer Lord Bellomont, the colonial governor

of New York, to get him out of that jam. Kidd approached Lord Gardiner and made him an offer he couldn't refuse: He showed him the huge treasure he had below decks on his ship anchored in Gardiner's Bay and asked if Gardiner would bury it on his island to keep it safe, until he could return and retrieve it later. Kidd added the proviso: "If it is not there when I return, I will kill you and all of your family..." Of course, Gardiner agreed. Kidd sailed to Boston, avoiding New York, and from there contacted Lord Bellomont with his proposal. Bellomont sent some of his army to Gardiner's Island where the Lord of the Manor showed them where (some) of the treasure was buried. Oops, it didn't work out quite as planned. Bellomont double-crossed Kidd: he kept some of the loot for himself and sent the king's portion of the specie along with his buddy Kidd to England for trial. Along with piracy charges, he was also charged with murder. On his last raid, he had banged a rebellious crewman, ship's gunner William Moore on the head with an iron strapped bucket, killing him. Kidd was held in Newgate Prison for two years, with no access to any of his money or counsel. Finally on May 23rd, 1701, at age 47, Kidd was hung by the neck. The rope broke! "Free him! It's a sign from Providence!" (paraphrased) But no, a new rope was quickly procured, and the second try did the trick.

Kidd's' treasure was buried in Cherry Tree Field on Gardiner's Island. There stands a modern stone marker at the site inscribed: "Capt. Kidd's Treasure was Buried In This Hollow and Recovered 1699." The original handwritten inventory of the Kidd treasure is in the Gardiner family papers. It includes: "Two bags dust gold, one bag coined gold, one parcel dust gold, one bag silver rings and precious stones. One bag unpolished stone, one bag of cristol [sic] and bazer [sic] Stone, two Cornelion rings, three small agats [sic], two amthests [sic] all in the same bag. One bag silver buttons and a lamp. Two bags gold bars and two bags silver bars. Gold weighing 1,110 ounces, silver weighing 2,353 ounces. Jewels and precious stones weighing 17 ounces. 57 bags of sugar, 41 bales merchandise and 17 pieces canvas." There is not an inventory of the coins included, now that would be interesting!

It is alluded to in various accounts that the Kidd treasure possibly (probably) formed the basis of the Gardiner multi-million-dollar fortune. On the rare occasions that tours are given of the island, visitors are shown dinner plates from an 84-piece set wrought from pirate gold with different scenes of Gardiner's Island embossed on each piece, along with priceless jewels, silver, and other family knick-knacks that were once pirate's booty.

Julia, First Lady from Gardiner's Island

The Gardiner family has always rubbed shoulders with wealth and power. In 1844, the Gardiner family joined with that of the president, John Tyler. John Tyler (1790-1862) was the tenth President from 1841-1845. He was

elected as vice-president to William Henry Harrison, under the campaign slogan "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." He served as vice-president for only a month, becoming president upon the death of Harrison. Tyler was born to a slave holding family in Virginia, advocated for states rights, and held

John Tyler $1 Presidential Dollar 2009 P D S. Obverse designed by Phebe Hemphill[6] and the reverse by John Everhart[6]. The edge carries the date 2009 E PLURIBUS UNUM and a P D or S mintmark. Look for these coins with missing edge lettering, quite scarce! There are a number of U. S. mint struck medals of President Tyler.
(Image courtesy of The United States Mint)

allegiance to the Confederacy. His was the only death of a president not officially recognized by the United States government. His funeral was directed by Confederate President Jefferson Davis who painted him as a hero to the new nation and had his coffin draped with a Confederate flag. He is buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond Virginia. Tyler, our most virile president, sired 15 children, 8 with his first wife Letitia and 7 with Julia, his

Letitia Tyler is depicted on the 2009W First Spouse $10 Gold Bullion coins[7]. The obverse portrait is by Phebe Hemphill[6] and the reverse was designed by Susan Gamble[6] and sculpted by Norman Nemeth[6].
(Image courtesy of The United States Mint)

second spouse; the most children of any president.
Letitia Christian Tyler (1790-1842) was President Tylers first wife, and she bore the President 8 children. Letitia had suffered a debilitating stroke in 1839 that left her too ill to assume her duties as First Lady when Tyler became president. The duties of First Lady fell to her daughter-in-law Priscilla Cooper Tyler (1816-1889). She was the wife of Robert Tyler[7], the oldest son of the President. Letitia died in September 1842, and Priscella

oversaw the social affairs of the White House, effectively becoming the (second) First Lady from 1842-1844.

John Tyler first met Julia Gardiner (1820-1889) at a party in the White House on February 7, 1843. The president was immediately smitten. Over the next year, Tyler proposed more than once but was shot down each time. Julia Gardiner was described as free-spirited and vivacious: for instance, while a teenager she arranged to be a model for a lithographed advertisement for a Manhattan department store. On February 8, 1844, President Tyler and members of the Gardiner family were aboard the steam frigate USS Princeton, on the Potomac River. Test firings of a huge naval gun the *Peacemaker* were planned as a demonstration for those aboard. The first two shots went fine, but on the third, the gun exploded and killing 6 people, among them was David Gardiner, the father of Julia, and Armistead, a young

The obverse and reverse of the Julia Tyler $10 2009W gold bullion coin were designed by Joel Iskowitz[6] and sculpted by Don Everhart[6]. The portrait of Julia was from the oil on canvas painting of Julia Gardiner Tyler, done by Francesco Anelli when she was 26 years old, date of work 1846-1848, in the Collection of the White House. The reverse show John and Julia dancing, a waltz perhaps. The Mint has struck bronze medals with similar designs for each of the first Ladies.
(Image courtesy of The United States Mint)

slave valet of the president. The president and Julia were below deck and escaped injury. Julia was so distraught that she fainted, and a weeping Tyler gathered her into his arms and carried her to a rescue ship. "After I lost my father," she later wrote, "I felt differently toward the president. He seemed to fill the place and to be more agreeable in every way than any younger man ever was or could be." They married in a private ceremony at the Church of the Ascension in New York City on June 26th, 1844. She was 24, he was 54, 30 years her senior. She immediately assumed the duties of (Tyler's third) First Lady upon moving to the White House and served in that role for the remaining months of Tyler's term of president. She introduced the playing of "Hail to the Chief" whenever the president arrived for an event. And, drawing the ire of the Puritanical set, she introduced dancing, including the waltz, to White House functions. When John died in 1862, Julia was only 41 years old and never remarried. Julia was a Confederate sympathizer and

that created a rift with her New York kin. She lived her final years in Richmond, Virginia and died of a stroke in the Exchange Hotel, where years before John Tyler had died.

Footnotes

1. Charles I, King of England and Scotland (1625-1649) was a true believer in the divine right of kings. He annoyed (to put it mildly) Parliament by dissolving the body three times and embroiling the country in the Civil Wars. Charlie lost his head to the ax on January 30th, 1649.

2. Gilroy Roberts (1905-1992) was the 9th Chief Engraver of the United States Mint from 1948-1964. He designed the obverse of the Kennedy half dollar. He left the mint in 1964 to join what became the Franklin Mint, eventually becoming the Chairman of the Board.

3. The General Numismatics Corporation or GNC was launched in 1964 in Yeadon, Pa. by entrepreneur Joseph H. Segel. GNC began using the more familiar name *Franklin Mint* in 1968.

4. Atomic number 41, Columbium, Cb, has been known since 1950 as Niobium, Nb. It is an element found in the minerals pyrochlore and columbite. In addition to numismatics, it is used in superconducting magnets, welding and electronics.

5. The only *verified* story of buried pirate treasure of any pirate, is that of Captain Kidd's cache that he left on Gardiner's Island. The only *verified* sunken pirate ship with the booty still on board is the *Whydah Gally* of the pirate Captain Samuel "Black Sam" Bellamy, which sank in 1717 off the coast of Cape Cod. It was found and salvaged by Barry Clifford beginning in 1984 and can be seen today in the Whydah Pirate Museum.

6. **Don Everhart** (born 1949) Left the Franklin Mint in 1980 to pursue a freelance career in medallic design, eventually becoming Lead Sculptor for the United States Mint. He has designed over 1000 coins and medals for the United States along with many other mints and organizations around the world. **Susan Gamble** (1957-2015) began coin design in 2004 with the U.S. Mint's Artistic Infusion Program. She eventually held the title of Master Designer. She designed a number of coins and medals for the mint. **Phebe Hemphill** (born 1960) enjoyed a few years with the Franklin Mint and joined the United States Mint team of medallic artists in 2006. She has designed and sculpted a great many coins and medals for the US Mint. **Joel Iskowitz** (born 1946) entered the U.S. Mint's Artistic Infusion Program in 2005. He has designed over 50 coins and medals for the mint. **Norman Nemeth** (1942 -2012) was a sculptor/engraver for the U. S. Mint

7. "The reverse of the coin depicts Mrs. Tyler and her two oldest children behind their Cedar Grove Plantation, with the plantation building and fields

visible in the distance." [US Mint quote, see references] The two children are: Mary born 1815 (the child at left,) and Robert (1816-1877) in the center. Robert served as the *Confederate Register of the Treasury* from 1861-1865, signing Confederate currency and bonds in that capacity. Do you suppose that the Mint picked up on the fact that they depicted a Rebel official on a coin? Here is an opportunity to add another Confederate Commemorative coin to your collection!

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COIN SHOW CALENDAR

Shows are subject to change or cancellation. Check for updates on the NCNA Website prior to attending: www.NCNA.club

NC

Sept. 14-15 **Sa: 10a-6p** **Su: 10a-4p**	**Raleigh, NC** *Rare Coins of Raleigh Coin & Currency Show* NC State Fair Grounds, Martin Bldg. 4285 Trinity Road, 27607 Contact: Brian DeBartolo – 919.790.8544
Oct. 4-6 **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-6p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Concord, NC** ***NCNA Convention and Show*** **Cabarrus Arena and Events Center** **4751 Highway 49, 28025** **Contact: Perry Siegel – 704.488.4787**
Oct. 19-20 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-4p**	**Jacksonville, NC** *Jacksonville-Camp Lejeune Coin Club Show* Hilton Garden Inn 1016 Jacksonville Parkway, 28546 Contact: Calvin Lindsey – 910.548.3963
Nov. 23-24 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Raleigh, NC** *Carolina Coin & Stamp Show* North Carolina State Fairgrounds, Kerr Scott Building 1025 Trinity Road, 27607 Contact: Clayton Brewer – 910.574.4635
Dec. 7-8 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Fayetteville, NC** *Cape Fear Coin Club Show* Honeycutt Recreation Center 352 Devers Street, 28303 Contacts: Jim Dimmick – 910.322.3117 John Russell - 910.964.0031
Dec. 13-14 **Fr: 9a-5p** **Sa: 9a-3p**	**Salisbury, NC** *Rowan County Coin Club - Annual Pre-Christmas Show* Salisbury Civic Center 315 S. MLK Avenue, 28144 Contact: Don Harris 704.640-6640

SC

Sept. 20-21 **Fr: 9a-5p** **Sa: 9a-3p**	**Lugoff (Camden), SC** *Camden Coin Show Spectacular* Camden City Arena 420 Broad Street, 29020 Contact: Jeff Cooper - 803.713.5311

Attention show promoters!

Send in your show information for the NCNA Journal to *ghcheek@earthlink.net* at least four months ahead of time.

Oct. 12 **Sa: 9a-5p**	**Florence, SC** *Pee Dee Area Coin Club Annual Coin Show* Florence/Darlington Technical College – SIMT Building 1951 Pisgah Road, 29501 Contact: Ronnie Westbrook – 843.616.4824
Oct. 24-26 **Th: 10a-6p** **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-4p**	**Greenville, SC** ***SCNA Annual Convention and Coin Show*** **TD Convention Center** **1 Exposition Drive, 29607** **Contact: Marc Kosanovich – 864.275.3204**
Nov. 1-2 **Fr: 10a-5p** **Sa: 9a-4p**	**Columbia, SC** *Midlands Coin Club Coin Show* The Medallion Conference Center 7309 Garners Ferry Road, 29209 Contact: Mike Smith - 803.250.5610
Nov. 23 **Sa: 9a-5p**	**Sumter, SC** *Sumter Coin Club Annual Coin Show* Bethesda Church of God Fellowship Hall 2730 Broad Street, 29150 Contact: Jeff Goodall – 704.254.7705

VA

Sep. 26-28 **Th: 11a-7p** **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-5p**	**Henrico, VA** ***Virginia Numismatic Association Coin and Currency Show*** **Richmond Raceway Complex** **600 East Laburnum Avenue, 23222** **Contact: Richard Schornak – 757.659.0235**
Oct. 11-12 **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 9a-5p**	**Virginia Beach, VA** *Virginia Beach Coin Show* Virginia Beach Convention Center 1000 19th Street, 23451 Contact: John Kolos - 757.331.1530
Nov. 2-3 **Sa: 9:30a-5:30p** **Su: 9:30a-3:30p**	**Salem, VA** (Tentative – may be cancelled) *Salem/Roanoke Valley Coin Shows* American Legion Post #3 710 Apperson Drive, 24153 Contact: Will Camp – 540.943.2267
Dec. 14-15 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-4p**	**Annandale, VA** *Annandale Coin Show* Northern Va. Comm. College Ernst Comm. Cultural Center 8333 Little River Turnpike, 22003 Contact: Wayne Herndon – 703.385.0058

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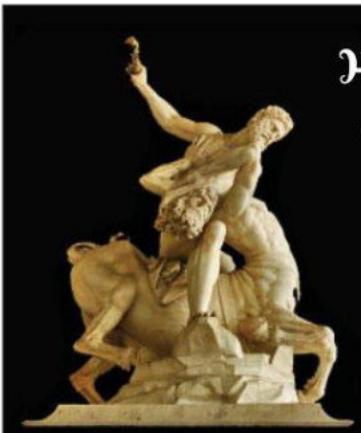

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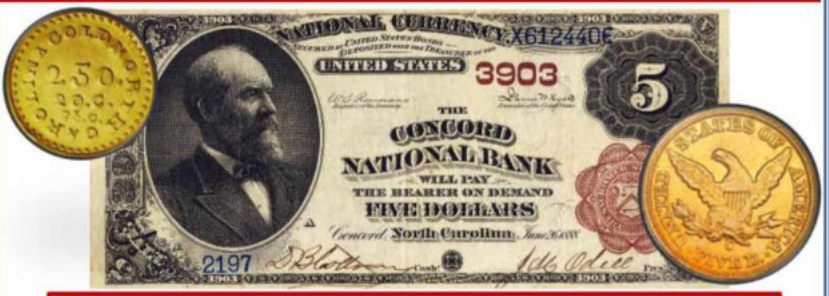

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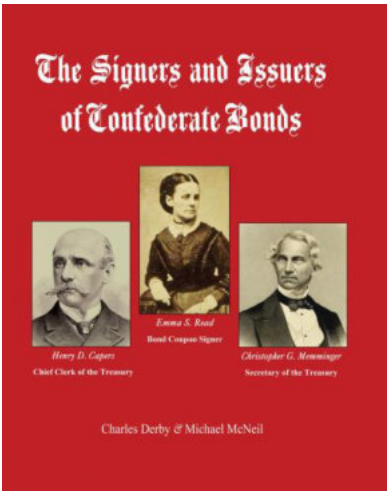
The Signers and Issuers of Confederate Bonds

(Published June 2024)

By Charles Derby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Charles Derby & Michael McNeil

The Confederate Treasury made a consequential decision in its early days, contrary to that of the U. S. Treasury: to have Treasury officials hand sign every Treasury note and bond. This decision seemed reasonable if the war was short, but after four years of conflict the Confederacy eventually printed over $1.5 billion in notes and $700 million in bonds. This meant that 80 million notes needed to be hand-signed by the Register and Treasurer and nearly 1 million bonds needed to be signed by the Register, initialed by two clerks as Recorder and Enterer and its coupons signed by another clerk. Clearly too immense a job for the Register and Treasurer themselves, the Treasury hired clerks to do the signing. In the end, 371 Treasury employees hand-signed Treasury notes and nearly 100 employees signed and initialed bonds and their coupons.

In our 2022 book ***Confederate Treasury Notes: Their Signers and Their Stories***, we told the story and the origins of the Treasury notes. Though initially all Treasury employees were men, by the end of the war all Treasury note signers were women. Many of these women were young and most were of high social standing, privileged and educated, not to mention with good penmanship. This decision to employ women as Treasury clerks had enormous and long-lasting social consequences: their experiences, responsibilities and opportunities opened the door for post-war work opportunities and choices that women never had before, forever changing the societies in which they lived.

In our new book ***The Signers and Issuers of Confederate Bonds*** we add a new chapter to this story by describing the operation of the Treasury in issuing its bonds. As with Treasury notes, Treasury bonds were signed by many employees: six men signed the bonds as Register or Assistant Register, 32 women and 22 men signed bond coupons as clerks, and nearly 40 men initialed bonds as Recorders or Enterers to show that the bonds were officially entered in the Treasurer's registers. Our new book identifies and gives biographies of these men and women. We present a section coupling the name of each signer or initialer of Treasury bonds and coupons and an image of the signers' signature or initials, which allows readers to quickly

and easily identify the signers and initialers of any bond or coupon. We also describe the operations in the Treasury Department and the professional activities of these employees including the process of issuing bonds.

Many of the bond signers and initialers had remarkable lives. Martha "Mittie" Morris, a signer of bond coupons and notes, was an indomitable fixture in the Richmond art scene into the 20th century. Sarah Pumphery, a coupon signer, owned an estate as "feme sole" with her husband as trustee, a rarity in that time. Margaret Bronaugh, a coupon signer, was a U. S. government clerk before and after signing Confederate bond coupons. Monimia Cary was an affluent single mother who besides signing bond coupons and notes, was also a hospital nurse. Coupon signer William W. Dennison was a controversial U. S. agent of the Pawnee and Otoe-Missouri tribes in Nebraska before the war and father of Eliza Dennison who signed Confederate Treasury notes. George Dabney, a coupon signer and James M. Boyd an Enterer who initialed bonds were consummate university professors. Henry D. Capers who was Chief Clerk of the Treasury and initialed bonds as Enterer was a physician, soldier, lawyer, financial officer, entrepreneur, professor and biographer. William R. Teller, a coupon signer was coal merchant in Cuba with Former Confederate General Fitzhugh Lee. Robert Tyler, the Register of the Treasury, and signer of bonds and coupons was the son of former U. S. President John Tyler.

Together our two-volume series brings to life the financial documents of the Confederate Treasury that are so popular with many collectors. It places these documents and the people who produced them in the context of their historical and societal times. This perspective personalizes Treasury bonds and notes and gives numismatists new ways of collecting them.

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A Counterfeit Coin in a PCGS Slab

By Tom Stinchcombe

A part of my coin collecting hobby is scanning online auctions of coins. I do this to search for bargains, as well as to assess the prices of coins I have or may buy in the future. I frequently enter a “low ball” bid several days before the auction ends. The consequences of this strategy are that I rarely win, but I rarely over pay for a coin. I was doing this on eBay, and I came across a 1920 one-dollar coin from the China Republic, period 1912-1949 (Y# 329.6). I was intrigued and quickly checked the photos, the PCGS number (82138818, Photo 1), and the PCGS QR code provided (Photo 2). Since the coin was in the PCGS slab and these two verifications checked out, I placed my bid.

I was fully expecting to be outbid. However, after several days there were not any additional bids and I became a little worried something was amiss, but I reassured myself that most of the bids on eBay are placed in the last five minutes. I was surprised when I won the auction, and paid the amount

Photo 1

Photo 2

and the shipping. When the coin arrived and I had more time to review the coin, and I noticed several issues. The PCGS label was dull and did not have the typical sparkling glitter (Photo 3). In retrospect, this was visible on the pictures provided (if you were attentive to that detail). I also noticed the rubber holding the coin in place was not the standard three points of contact (Photo 4), but instead was a circular rubber seal holding the coin in place. At this point, I reached out to the seller with my concerns. He explained that he

was not a coin dealer and did not have the expertise to authenticate the coin, that I had several days to review the coin, and that he had "no return" policy. All these comments were accurate, but it still left me dissatisfied. I reached

Photo 3

out to the eBay customer service and reported the episode in regards to the sale of a potentially counterfeit coin. They reviewed the episode and stated that this was not a violation of their labelling and description policies. I had known that online auctions are a "buyer beware" situations, but this was the first time I had experienced the repercussions of the policy.

My next step was to see if PCGS could assist. I contacted them using the online portal, and there is a mechanism where they can review a slabbed coin for authenticity and they would label it as counterfeit. There is no charge associated with the service, but you do have to pay the price of shipping, which was $27. I was then faced with a dilemma as to send the coin in for confirmation of my suspicion, but I decided not to since it was an additional expense and it was unlikely to change the outcome. I had reached acceptance that I was stuck with the counterfeit coin and holder.

Photo 4

I shared the episode and the coin with several friends who encouraged me to share the story. I have learned several key lessons, and the most important is to carefully inspect slabbed coins when purchasing on line. I was too complacent, and did not perform due diligence when inspecting the pictures of the coin and the slab. I have also re-evaluated my strategy of placing "low ball" bids because if you win a coin of no value, it is a loss. Additionally, I will only restrict my bidding with established coin dealers rather sellers who occasionally sell coins.

(All photos provided by the author)

Ancient Games Coins

By Perry Siegel

With the Olympics taking place in Paris this summer, I naturally started thinking about the many 'games' pieces that were struck on ancient coins and medallions. There were local games in many cities throughout the ancient world, much too numerous to mention all of them in this article, and major ones that were international in scope like the Olympics at Olympia or the Pythian Games at Delphi. Games featured gymnastic, athletic, music, and poetry competitions, eventually evolving to display the very best of Greek and later Greco-Roman culture, and traditionally drew visitors from both near and far.

The Olympic Games date back to 776 B.C. The types of games were very different from the ones that we see today. Over time there were up to 23 games played at the Olympics, which always fell within one of three categories: racing, combat, and equestrian. The games were not just sporting events however, but religious rituals as well. To participate in the games meant to participate in religious practice: honoring the gods, engaging in feasting and sacrificing, and even in ceasefire between communities that were otherwise at war. The Olympics games were held every four years just as today and were referred to as Olympiads. Olive wreaths and crowns were bestowed upon the victors as opposed to the medals presented today. The judges of the Olympic Games were called the *Hellanodikai*. Their responsibility was not merely to pick the victors of each of the games, but also to maintain the peace declared during each period. The Olympian games have historically played a significant role as champions of peace and have been revered for generations in art and literature.

In order to support the volume of visitors which were attracted to the games, mints were established specifically for the striking of a uniform coinage which could serve as the medium of exchange throughout the ceremonies. The first of these two mints was located at the Temple of Zeus and began striking coins for the 78th Olympiad of 468 B.C. This was followed by the addition of a second mint at the Temple of Hera circa 421/0 B.C. The silver stater below was struck in Olympia by a master engraver for the 105th

Olympiad in 360 B.C., featuring the laureate head of Zeus and an eagle perched on Ionic capital.

One of the most classic ancient Greek coins commemorating the Olympics is nicknamed the "wrestler coin." As seen below it depicts two wrestlers grappling and a slinger in a throwing stance. It is most often seen on coins from Aspendos in Pamphylia, however this incredible stater, perhaps the finest known, was struck in the neighboring city-state of Selge in Pisidia in the 4th century B.C.

Originally founded as one of four Panhellenic Games during the sixth century B.C., the first Pythian Games were said to have been held by Apollo in penance for the killing of Python at Delphi. The games subsequently occurred in the second year of each four-year Olympic cycle. Held in honor of Apollo, the god of arts and civilization, these games featured gymnastic, athletic, music, and poetry competitions and drew visitors from all over. Although the main Pythian Games were held at Apollo's sanctuary at Delphi, many other cities throughout the eastern portion of the Roman Empire periodically held smaller versions of this event. Like the Delphic original, these smaller versions included several athletic contests, as well as music and poetry competitions. Often such events were associated with other deities, based on the important civic cults of each city.

The bronze coin below was struck under the Roman emperor Geta in the city-state of Perinthus in Thrace. Illustrated on the reverse is an agonistic table showing the victors' prizes: two victory crowns, representing the Action and Pythian Games, the two local contests held in the city of Perinthus. Traditionally made of bay leaves, which were sacred to Apollo, the leaves for the crowns were taken from the sacred tree in the Vale of Tempe in Thessaly. Between them are two palm fronds, and below, five apples and an amphora.

Also shown below is a medallion struck under Geta's brother, the emperor Caracalla. His laureate heroic bust is seen from behind, wearing aegis, and two laureate athletes are raising their hands to touch a wreath, with a third athlete between bending to apply oil from an urn for an athletic event. The reverse of this medallion is one of many similar types struck by Philippopolis in Thrace to commemorate the Pythian Games. These games in A.D. 215, coming as it did during Caracalla's march east to fight the Persians, must have invested the event with further significance: by situating the occurrence of the games at such a crucial moment, the gods had signaled their approval for Caracalla's enterprise against the "barbarians."

In the Themian games, winners were awarded cash money or precious objects rather than the more common wreaths or olive oil. This extremely rare medallion struck in Prostanna, Pisidia under the emperor Severus Alexander offers a scene that took place at the beginning of those games, when each athlete drew lots for his starting position. An agnostic crown hovers above two athletes who are looking at their lots and as we can see, to avoid any chance of trickery, the athlete in the middle turns his head away from the vase containing the lots!

The reverse of this next interesting issue commemorates the Isopythian Games held in honor of Asklepios, the god of healing. These sacred games are probably connected to Caracalla's trip to the East in A.D. 214/215 during which he sought healing from an unknown disease in several sanctuaries of Asklepios along his route. Caracalla struck this extremely rare bronze tetrassarion in Ancyra, Galatia and it depicts an athlete seated left on a throne, holding a prize-urn containing a palm branch.

The Flavian Amphitheater, better known today as the Colosseum, was built by prisoners of the First Jewish War on the site of the Domus Aurea of Nero. Opened to the public during the emperor Titus' rule in A.D. 80, the Colosseum was welcomed with great fanfare and games. During the opening ceremonies a huge number of animals were both exhibited and slaughtered. The Colosseum had a seating capacity of over 50,000 people, but reportedly could hold upwards of 100,000 people. Under Titus, the first games included athletic performances, tragic dramas, and wild animal hunts. Gladiators from all over Italy came to show off their skills in battle, creating an exciting pastime for the citizens of Rome. The elephant on this silver denarius minted by Titus is wearing armor and represents one of the numerous species present at the ceremonies.

A religious ceremony involving various sacrifices and theatrical performances, the Ludi Saeculares, or Secular Games, were allegedly first celebrated early in Rome's history in response to a pestilence which afflicted the city. After several sacrifices to Pluto and Proserpine, the plague was said to have ceased, and the sacrifices, along with other events, were added to ensuing ceremonies. These latter celebrations were set to occur for three days and nights to mark the end of one saeculum or generation, and the beginning of the next, with a saeculum being between 100 and 110 years, believed to be the longest human lifespan. Challenging times under Julius Caesar did not permit the games to be held in circa 49 B.C., but they were reinstated by Augustus in 17 B.C., when the first coins marking the event were struck. Augustus deifies his uncle with a youthful portrait of Julius Caesar on the obverse and a herald of the games on the reverse. The Secular Games would employ a herald who would walk around the city inviting people to a spectacle which they had never seen and would not see again.

Breaking with the traditional dates for a saeculum celebration, Claudius and then Antoninus Pius both held Secular Games in A.D. 48 and A.D. 148 to commemorate the 800th and 900th anniversaries of the founding of Rome. Domitian also held one of the Ludi Saeculares in October, A.D. 88. He was very proud of his games and produced a very interesting coinage in all metals to commemorate them. The legend LVDi SAECulares FECit is inscribed on a pedestal on the silver denarius below. Septimius Severus dedicated the secular games of A.D. 204 to both Hercules and Bacchus, the patron deities of the emperor's hometown of Lepcis Magna in modern-day Lybia. The historian Dio indicated that Septimius also built an enormous temple to the gods, although he does not specify where. The gold aureus also below depicts Hercules leaning on a club with lion's skin draped over his

arm, and Bacchus holding a vase over a panther.

Continuing the tradition of Claudius and Antoninus Pius before him, the celebration of the Secular Games at the end of every century since the founding of Rome culminated during the reign of Philip I, as the city celebrated her 1,000th anniversary in A.D. 248. A religious ceremony involving various sacrifices and theatrical performances was held in honor of this special anniversary and included some of the greatest spectacles seen in Rome for generations. Exotic animals were brought in for the event from the far reaches of the empire, dispatching teams of adventurers into Africa and India to bring back fabulous beasts in cages and chains. It is believed that thirty-two elephants, ten elk, seventy lions, ten tigers, thirty leopards, ten hyenas, six hippopotamuses, one rhinoceros, ten giraffes, twenty wild asses and vast herds of other animals were all accumulated. They were set loose in various arenas, including the Colosseum, at one time or another during the festival, and most were slaughtered for the crowd's entertainment.

Philip I commemorated this spectacular event with an extensive series of coins. These millennial coins were struck in gold, silver and copper and in several denominations. The legends on these issues almost exclusively read SAECVLARES AVGG, which suggests the celebrations marked the close of one age and the beginning of another, and feature a similar iconography from previous games, such as the she-wolf suckling the Twins, Romulus and Remus, the various wild beasts paraded through the amphitheater, and a pedestal inscribed for the preservation of the memory of these events. Philip's son, Philip II, and his wife, Otacilia Severa, both struck coins as well to celebrate this momentous occasion. The hippopotamus on this coin was the only games type struck by Otacilia Severa. Oh, how the people of Rome must have delighted in seeing a hippo for the first time!

The *taurokathapsia* was a form of bull fighting that was popular at many games in the ancient Greek world, and particularly in Crete and Thessaly. Scenes of this event are depicted on coins from various cities of Thessaly, but it is especially prevalent in the 5th century B.C. coinage at Larissa, which provides much of the current evidence about *taurokathapsia* today. In the Thessalian version of the event, a man on horseback was to chase down and subdue a bull. He first rode alongside the running bull, then grabbed the bull by the horns and jumped from his steed onto the back of the bull. Still holding the horns, the rider then dismounted the bull, and attempted to wrestle it to the ground. The silver drachm below from Larissa illustrates that very wrestling scene. In a similar vein, the denarius below depicts a rider on the reverse who switches from one horse to the other while the horses are in motion, an equestrian event which was part of the Parilian games, celebrated each year on April 21st to commemorate Julus Caesar's victory at Munda.

As mentioned in the opening paragraph, there were a multitude of games held throughout the Greek and Roman worlds, far too many to cover here. The Nemean Games had originally been held at the sanctuary of Nemea, but due to that town's decline in importance the games were moved to Argos. The Actian Games, which were instituted by Augustus at Nicopolis ("City of Victory") to celebrate his victory over Mark Antony and Cleopatra at the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C. The Philadelphian Games, known as the Brother-Loving, were held in honor of Septimius Severus's two sons, Caracalla and Geta, who, in fact, did not love each other at all! The Isthmian Games, the Side Games, the Tripolis Games…on and on. In today's world we of course have the modern-day Olympics to enjoy. See you in Los Angeles in 2028!

All images courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group.

Getting to Know Your Board

By Perry Siegel

Fittingly, our spotlight in conjunction with the NCNA Annual Convention is on our board President, Greg Cheek. Greg has been actively involved in the hobby on several levels, with local coin clubs, regionally with the NCNA, and nationally with the ANA, John Reich Collector's Society, and Bust Half Nut Club.

Greg jokingly blames his dad for his love of numismatics. He was about nine years old when he snuck up into the attic and discovered a black Army locker box with his dad and mom's initials engraved on top. Inside of course were coins, ones his dad had saved since childhood, namely large cents pulled from change while bagging groceries in Winston Salem in the 1940's. This was Greg's first exposure to these types of coins and it was like staring into a treasure trove. He eventually bought his first coin at 13 years old from a coin store owner named "Red" in Winston Salem. It was an 1856 Seated Liberty quarter which he later realized was "about good." Greg's dad would from time to time give him and his brother a roll of Indian Head cents to split, and his brother always said Greg got the best ones. Greg would also wheel and deal with his fellow 7th graders, trading out Lincoln for Indian Head pennies from change, at least until they caught on to his ways!

Alas, college years came along and Greg lost interest in coins as many do. Fast forward to the mid 1980's when early in his marriage, his mother-in-law gave him a 1912-D "V" nickel for Christmas. Greg's wife Lois told her mom years later that she had created a "monster". Greg soon joined the Winston Salem Coin Club. He started to put together a type set of US coins, but it didn't take long for Greg to realize that would be much too hard to complete, so he switched to bust halves in the mid-90s and joined the Bust Half Nut Club. Looking back, that coin given as a Christmas gift by Greg's mother-in-law was acquired from a coin shop on Stratford Road in Winston Salem. Here's the kicker: Greg's dad grew up directly behind that coin shop which used to be the grocery store where his dad worked and began his collecting journey! The coin shop is still there today. In fact, Greg went to work there when he retired from Lowe's and remained there until Covid hit. Full circle at its best!

Greg joined the NCNA in the early 1990s, and then board member, Will Jordan, encouraged him to join the board, saying they needed younger board members. He soon engaged with Brad Ciociola in building the YN program throughout the state, winning the John J. Pittman award in 1999 for his volunteer efforts. Of

course, now Greg is in that same position of trying to recruit younger members onto the board. Any takers out there (shameless plug inserted!)?? Greg got busy with family life for a few years, but later found his way back to the NCNA board. Barry Ciociola and Bill Brewer pulled him back in around 2010. He stepped back into the 2nd Vice President role, and Barry eventually asked him when he would be ready to assume the President's position. Greg told Barry that he would consider it maybe when he retired from Lowe's. Well, wouldn't you know, Barry called as soon as he heard that Greg had retired in the summer of 2017. Greg recalls Barry's words well …"Remember our conversation? It's your turn!" Greg has remained in the position since.

Greg has always been a true student of history. The historical thread that weaves through everything has been the genesis of his various collecting interests. Besides coins, he is involved in Civil War reenacting hobby, and also collects documents, paper money and coins from that period. Every Christmas he gives family and extended family coins from 100 years prior as gifts. Greg's dad sparked his interest in collecting, his mother-in-law reignited it, and the flame continues to burn brightly today.

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♣ News from the Clubs ♣

*Go to the NCNA website **NCNA.club** for the most recent updates on local club contacts, information, and news.*

Attention NCNA Member Coin Clubs!

The *NCNA Journal* needs your club news and updates on your club's activities! **Club leaders: *Please have your representative send updates to the Journal regarding your club's activities as well as obituaries of members who recently passed away.*** Thanks in advance for your help with keeping other NCNA members updated and aware of your club's organization changes, events and projects. Updates should be sent to Greg Cheek at ghcheek@earthlink.net or Greg Cheek – NCNA, PO Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

Raleigh Coin Club (RCC) - 50th Anniversary Money Expo

Report from the RCC Money Expo Committee:
"Our 50th Anniversary Show on June 21-23 was a huge success because of all the people who helped and participated in the show. Dealer tables were sold out for the second year in a row, raffle tickets sold out around 3pm Saturday, we had record attendance on Friday, and we had better than average attendance for the entire show. Two of the educational programs were "sellouts" as well, as all seats were full. We are already about 75% sold out for 2025, also a new record. Our show is growing in stature and reputation. But, a show like this does not happen without a lot of people being involved. Thank you to many club members who helped with moving in and out, registration, manning the club table, serving food, etc.,. An even bigger thank you to committee chairs who organized the various functions of the show, including exhibits, education, advertising and 50th anniversary memorabilia, food, public and dealer registration, move in/out crews, dealer move in, transportation, paying the bills and collecting deposits, and YN program."

Iredell-Statesville Coin Club (ISCC) – 29th Annual Coin Show

Report from Bill Brewer, President of ISCC:
"Our very successful 29th Anniversary Coin Show was held on August 10-11. There were just over 600 folks in attendance on Saturday, with around another 200 folks there on Sunday. We had 94 dealer tables, which is the largest number ever for our show. Many of the club members volunteered to help with room setup/takedown and assist dealers arriving/leaving the show. Most dealers reported strong sales throughout the day on Saturday, with activity continuing on until closing at 5:00 pm. Activity was much lighter on Sunday, but many of the dealers stayed until the end of the show. Hundreds of folks participated in the raffle, with several gold coins and silver eagles being given away. We want to thank Bob Pedolsky, YN coordinator for the NCNA and the Charlotte Coin Club, for conducting a great program for the young collectors and parents on Saturday. Many coins were given away and a special YN raffle was conducted as well. We are already looking forward to our August 2025 show."

Join the Barber Coin Collectors' Society!

The Barber Coin Collectors' Society (BCCS) is a group of over three hundred collectors and dealers dedicated to the study of the coinage of Charles E. Barber, including his regular issue coins, patterns, and medals.

Benefits of Membership

Publications and research

- **Four issues** every year of the ***Journal of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society***, in full color
- **Educational and social interactions** at a host of regional meeting venues throughout the United States, or online

Access to series experts

- Networking with experts on each of the Barber coin series, from Liberty nickels to Barber half dollars, all eager to share their decades of expertise with you
- Educational programs and social activities at many regional coin shows around the country

Historical information on the Barbers, including Charles' father and 5th Chief Engraver William Barber, provides an interesting context for the coins we study and enjoy.

Membership Info

Membership is just $20 per year. Application form is on the club website, under **Membership**.

Email: bccs@barbercoins.org

Barber Coin Collectors' Society
P.O. Box 1723
Decatur IL 62525

Barber Coin Collectors' Society

www.barbercoins.org

NCNA Membership Benefits

The NCNA was established to bring together those interested in numismatics and to foster a sharing of numismatic knowledge through its publications, its annual Convention and its support of local coin clubs. NCNA membership is open to collectors, dealers and clubs.

Why Join the NCNA?

- **Fellowship:** Become part of a numismatic community that stretches from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks!
- ***NCNA Journal*:** Receive an award-winning quarterly magazine with informative articles, NCNA organizational updates and the latest news from member clubs.
- **Discounts on Books & Supplies**: Receive a 10% discount on numismatic books and supplies from participating dealers.
- **Annual Convention:** The NCNA hosts one of the larger coin and currency shows in North Carolina each year, featuring local and regional dealers.
    - ✓ NCNA members can enter the Convention bourse 30 minutes before the general public. (Valid NCNA membership card must be shown.)
- **Local Clubs:** The NCNA can assist with the organization of a new club or the ongoing support of an existing club. Contact us if you need assistance!
- **Club Liaison Program:** A program that brings together club representatives from across the state to exchange ideas and collaborate on improving the club experience for all members.
- **Annual Awards:** Each year the NCNA presents awards to those who have contributed to the advancement of the hobby through their support of the organization and/or the sharing of their expertise with other collectors.

Young Collector Program

The NCNA offers an educational program specifically designed for young collectors. The program was created to help develop the next generation of collectors by encouraging today's youth to become active in coin and paper money collecting.

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2024 NCNA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

All NCNA BOD meetings are open to the NCNA membership. BOD meetings are usually scheduled on Saturday, immediately following the close of the coin show bourse and times are TBD. ***Please note that the Annual NCNA General Membership Meeting at Cabarrus Arena at 8:30 AM is open to all members of the NCNA. All members, dealers, and guests are encouraged to attend.***

Meeting Location	Date
Charlotte Coin Club Show - Charlotte **(Friday)**	Feb. 9, 2024
Azalea Festival Coin Show - Wilmington	April 6, 2024
Raleigh Money Expo - Raleigh Coin Show - Raleigh	June 22, 2024
Iredell-Statesville Coin Club Show - Statesville	Aug. 10, 2024
NCNA Convention - General Membership - Concord	Oct. 5, 2024
Carolina Coin & Stamp Show – Raleigh	Nov. 23, 2024

NCNA Local Club Outreach & Coordination

NCNA BOD Directors Bill Graves and Danny Freeman have reached out to local clubs for updated contact and other information, which has been posted on the NCNA website. They are continuing to reach out to local coin clubs and facilitate forums for sharing ideas and forming partnerships. Please feel free to contact Bill or Danny, as they are very interested in your ideas and suggestions.

NCNA Website (http://www.NCNA.CLUB)

The NCNA website is an important tool for sharing information with the membership. Alan Stullenbarger currently serves as our webmaster, with Perry Siegel providing administration for the website. Local club representatives should send all local club contact updates and news to Perry Siegel. Please send all coin and stamp show updates to Bill Graves.

NCNA Facebook Page & Other Social Media (www.facebook.com/NCCollector)

The NCNA Facebook page is another important tool for sharing information with the membership and beyond. Paul Landsberg has taken on Facebook administrative activities for our page, exploring fresh ideas in utilizing other social media to promote our hobby. Please feel free to share your ideas and suggestions with Paul in the social media arena. This is still a fairly under explored area and much more can be done to use it to promote the hobby.

North Carolina Numismatic Association

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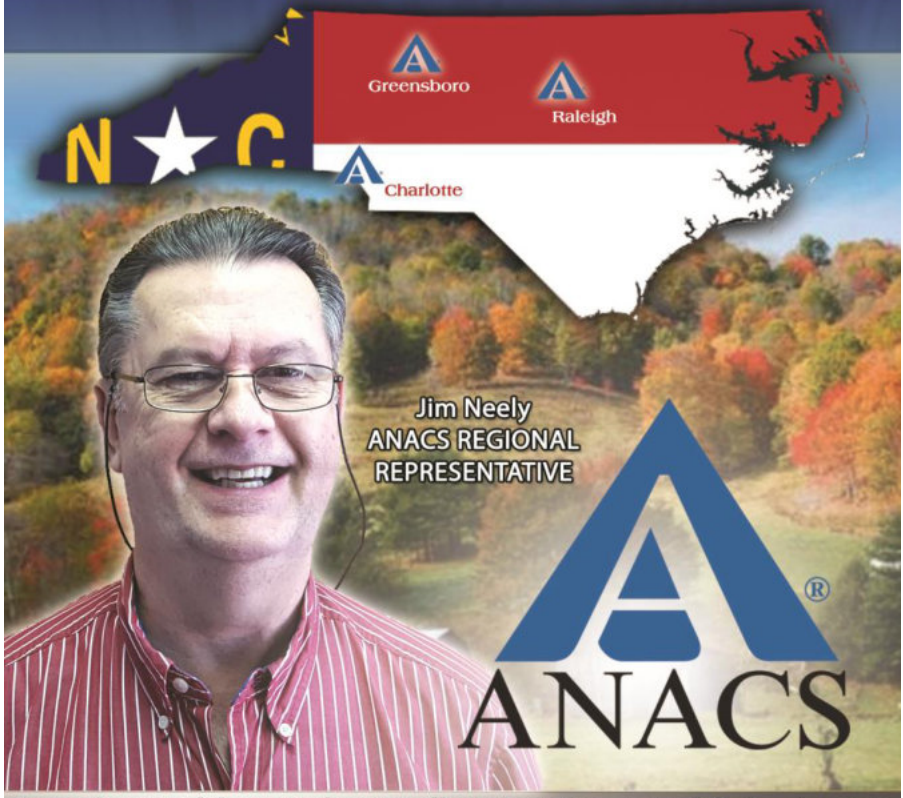

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